

NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

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SPRINGFIELD MAN INDICTED IN FOUR BANK ROBBERIES

SPRINGFIELD, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that a Springfield, Mo., man was indicted by a federal grand jury today for robbing four banks.

Brent James Bockes, 32, of Springfield, was charged in a four-count indictment returned by a federal grand jury in Springfield.

Count One of the federal indictment alleges that **Bockes** robbed Empire Bank in Ozark, Mo., on Feb. 11, 2004.

Counts Two and Three of the federal indictment allege that **Bockes** robbed Premier Bank in Columbia, Mo., on April 9, 2002, and again on Feb. 23, 2004.

Count Four of the federal indictment alleges that **Bockes** robbed Great Southern Bank in Lebanon, Mo., on March 16, 2004.

Graves cautioned that the charges contained in the indictment are simply accusations, and not evidence of guilt. Evidence supporting the charges must be presented to a federal trial jury, whose duty is to determine guilt or innocence.

This case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Douglas C. Bunch. It was investigated by the Columbia, Ozark and Lebanon, Mo., Police Departments and the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at

www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow